

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A *Candida albicans* gene, *CaNik1*, is involved in phenotypic
switching which is significant because of a direct correlation
between the switching and the level of virulence of the
organism. A method of screening for anti-fungal pharmaceutical
candidates entails bringing a test substance into contact with
cells containing a *CaNik1* gene or a variant thereof and then
10 monitoring the effect, if any, on the level of expression of
the gene.